

Message Text

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20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01

SCCT-02 DRC-01 /088 W

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P R 280935Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7057

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

DIA WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 2485

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MY

SUBJ: COMMUNIST TERRORISTS STRIKE AT ROAD PROJECT

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

BANGKOK PASS AMCONSUL SONGKHLA

REF: KUALA LUMPUR A-69, 5/20/74

1. SUMMARY: COMMUNIST TERRORISTS (CT'S) STRUCK MAY 23 AT
NORTHERN ROAD PROJECT LESS THAN 15 MILES FROM THAI BORDER,
DESTROYING OR DAMAGING OVER 60 BULLDOZERS AND EARTH-MOVING
MACHINES VALUED AT MORE THAN US\$3 MILLION. TERRORIST RAID IS
SIGNIFICANT IN VIEW OF PRIME MINISTER RAZAK'S VISIT TO CHINA
BEGINNING TODAY AND LACK OF GOM SECURITY FORCES PROTECTION GIVEN
TO EAST-WEST HIGHWAY PROJECT, PARTIALLY FINANCED BY WORLD BANK.

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END SUMMARY.

2. ON EVENING MAY 23, GROUP OF APPROX 100 CT'S SABOTAGED EARTH-MOVING AND CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT AT REMOTE SITE 20 MILES EAST OF GRIK IN NORTHERN PERAK. ACCORDING TO GOM ANNOUNCEMENTS, OVER 60 MACHINES VALUED AT MORE THAN US\$ 3 MILLION WERE DESTROYED; ROAD PROJECT IS PART OF EAST-WEST HIGHWAY LINKING PENANG ON WEST COAST WITH KOTA BAHRU, KELANTAN, IN EAST.

3. GOM DEFENSE MIN HAMZAH TOLD PRESS MAY 26 THAT CT'YFROM 12TH REGIMENT, WHOSE SANCTUARY IS BETONG SALIENT OF SOUTHERN THAILAND, CROSSED BORDER IN FORCE AND PLANTED EXPLOSIVES WITH "SOPHISTICATED TIMING DEVICES" AROUND CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT. CT'S ALSO LAID MINES AND BOOBY TRAPS ALONG NEARLY 30 MILES OF THE PILOT TRACK FOR THE HIGHWAY, DEMOLISHING A SECURITY FORCES SCOUT CAR AND THREE-TON TRUCK.

4. HAMZAH, HOME AFFAIRS MIN GHAZALI SHAFIE, AND OTHER GOM SPOKESMEN IN SEVERAL STATEMENTS DURING THE PAST FEW DAYS HAVE DENIED THAT CT SABOTAGE IS RELATED TO PM RAZAK VISIT TO CHINA BEGINNING TODAY OR THAT CT'S ARE CONTROLLED BY PEKING. ACCORDING TO GHAZALI SHAFIE, CT'S DISTRIBUTED LEAFLETS OPPOSING HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION AND TEMENGGOR DAM PROJECT, ALSO IN NORTHERN PERAK, WHICH HE SAID DEMONSTRATES THAT CT'S OPPOSE GOM'S DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS AND BETTER LIFE FOR PEOPLE.

5. COMMENT: DESPITE GOM PROTESTATIONS TO CONTRARY, THERE IS CLEAR LINK IN OUR VIEW BETWEEN ESTABLISHMENT OF GOM/PRC RELATIONS AND RAZAK'S TRIP TO CHINA ON ONE HAND AND CT/MALAYAN COMMUNIST PARTY (CPM) ATTEMPTS TO OFFSET THESE EVENTS, BOTH IN MAINTAINING ALLEGIANCE OF OWN CADRES AND PUBLIC CREDIBILITY. ALSO, IT NOT SURPRISING THAT 100 OR MORE CT'S COULD BE MARSHALLED TO CONDUCT SABOTAGE OPERATION, EXPECIALLY IN REMOTE JUNGLE AREA CLOSE TO BORDER WHERE THERE EVIDENTLY WAS NO SECURITY PROVIDED TO CONSTRUCTION TEAMS OR EQUIPMENT. LOCAL DEFENSE UNIT (VIGILANTE CORPS) PERSONNEL ARE SUPPOSED TO PROVIDE SECURITY AT CRITICAL POINTS IN THIS AREA. MOREOVER, WE BELIEVE THERE GOOD POSSIBILITY THAT CT/CPM WILL INCREASINGLY RESORT TO SABOTAGE OF THIS TYPE AND OTHER SPORADIC ATTENTION-GETTING ACTIONS TO MAINTAIN CONFIDENTIAL

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PUBLIC REVOLUTIONARY IMAGE AND TO PLACATE OWN CADRES IN FACE OF GROWING OFFICIAL GOM/PRC RAPPROCHEMENT.

6. FOREGOING MESSAGE COORDINATED WITH USDAO.
UNDERHILL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: CONSTRUCTION, PARAMILITARY FORCES, CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT, PRESS COMMENTS, HIGHWAYS, COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Executive Order: GS
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Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: PINS, MY
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